

**REMARKS**

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated June 21, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on September 21, 2004. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

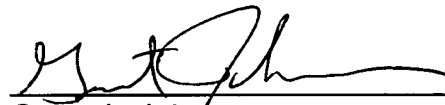
Claims 1-26 are pending in the application. Claims 1-46 remain pending following entry of this response.

Each of the claims stands rejected on the basis of *Hendrey et al.* (US 6,539,232), either alone or in combination with one or more other references. Filed herewith is a attorney's declaration submitted pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.132. It is believed that the declaration removes *Hendrey et al.* as a reference and that, therefore, the claims are allowable. Allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

October 21, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



Grant A. Johnson

Registration No.: 42,696

Telephone: (507) 253-4660

Fax: (507) 253-2382